

JAMES M. INHOFE

OKLAHOMA

WASHINGTON OFFICE

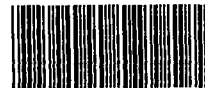
453 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BLDG  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3603  
202-224-4721

TULSA OFFICE

1924 S. UTICA, SUITE 530  
TULSA, OK 74104  
918-748-5111

OKLAHOMA CITY OFFICE

204 NORTH ROBINSON, SUITE 2701  
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73102  
405-231-4381



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# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3603

January, 29, 1999

The Honorable Carol M.. Browner  
Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
401 M. Street, SW, Room 1200  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Browner:

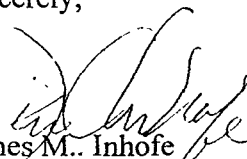
On February 10, 1999, the EPA is holding a "technical workshop on perchlorate risk issues" in San Bernardino, CA, in order to allow the public and other interest parties to review information that is the basis for a revised oral reference dose (RfD) for perchlorate. Information for this review is contained in a report by the National Center for Environmental Assessment entitled "Perchlorate Environmental Contamination: Toxicological Review and Risk Characterization Based on Emerging Information," published on December 31, 1998.

It is my understanding that the main report to be issued during this meeting was not made available to the public until mid-January, and that most of the 186 documents used as references in the report are still not readily available for public review. Additionally, several studies that the EPA previously deemed necessary in order to derive a proper perchlorate RfD have not yet been completed.

Given this situation, especially the extremely short period of time the public has to prepare its comments, I would strongly recommend a 90 day postponement of the "technical workshop" in order that the public will have time for a proper review of the documents, completion of important studies, and adequate time period for public review and comment.

I appreciate your consideration of this request and hope to hear from you in the near future.

Sincerely,



James M.. Inhofe  
United States Senator

cc: Timothy Fields, Jr  
Acting Assistant Administrator  
Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response